DRAG

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DRAG

A MAGAZINE ABOUT THE TRANSVESTITE

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The Drag Times

WORLD WIDE NEWS OF THE TRANSVESTITE COMMUNITY

Gay Bank Robber's Real Wife Sees Movie — And Red

Gay News, London, reports that Ms. Carmen Wojtowicz is suing the publishers of **DOG DAY AFTERNOON**, a book based on the award-winning Al Pacino film of the same name.

DOG DAY AFTERNOON portrays an abortive bank raid, carried out by a gay character called "Sonny Wortzick" — it was based on a real-life robbery in Brooklyn in 1972.

Ms. Wojtowicz complains, on behalf of herself and her two children, of invasion of privacy and unauthorized use of their names and "portraits." She told the court that she was clearly identifiable in both the film and the book.

The publishers asked the Court to dismiss the action, but Justice Stecher refused. "It is not necessary to recount here the revolting description of the plaintiffs alleged to exist in both the film and the book.

"If, as plaintiffs contend and appears likely, these plaintiffs, who have done nothing to make public figures of themselves, have, for the purposes of defendants' profits, had their lives invaded, degraded and fictionalized, a cause of action for invasion of privacy may exist."

The case will now proceed with Ms. Wojtowicz claiming substantial damages.

Liz Eden, real-life girlfriend of Wojtowicz, and the catalyst for DOG DAY AFTERNOON, received an out-of-court settlement from the producers of the movie, claiming adverse publicity.

Thieves in Transvestites' Clothing

Transvestites on the East Coast were again the subject of negative publicity, with the publication of several stories and a television blurb, telling of the shoplifting done by transvestites. These men, also known to store security personnel as Wigs, enter the poshest boutiques, create disturbances, and proceed to carry out the most valuable items. The situation is so bad in New York City that several shopkeepers will refuse to admit anyone they think is a drag. This is the type of thing that serves to hinder the cause of Drag Rights throughout the country and gives the whole lifestyle a disgusting reputation. One newspaper has already taken to categorizing the group as "Pilfering Pansies."

Again, it seems to be the transvestite who gets the bad end of the deal, since the people involved are apparently transsexuals. Unfortunately for the TV, when a TS commits a crime, the label "transvestite" is used.

PROSTITUTES "DRAGGED" PARIS STREETS

A new book, THE SECRET STREETS OF PARIS, tells of the existence of transvestite prostitutes who plied the Parisian Streets in the decadent period before the second World War. The pictures of the drags recall the era when the mere wearing of a dress by a male was scandalous!

TV's Obscene in Chicago

Gender Services has taken an active interest in Chicago's Obscenity Ordinance, Section 192-8, Chapter 192 of the Municipal Code: "Any person who shall appear in a public place in a state of nudity, or in a dress not belonging to his or her sex, with the intent to conceal his or her sex, or in an indecent or lewd dress, or who shall make an indecent exposure of his or her body shall be fined not less than $20.00, nor more than $500.00 for each offense."

The move to remove the law against cross-dressing as part of the obscenity ordinance was tabled by the city's finance committee. Although delayed, action is expected to be made before the end of the year.

Counseling Service for Chicago TVs

Gender Services, a non-profit organization founded in 1974, offers a complete counseling service for the transsexual/transvestite person of either gender. While seven hospitals in Chicago perform the sex change operation, only Cook County offers any counseling program, and their program is concerned solely with preparing the individual for the operation itself. Gender Services, however, offers education and social support for a person to find the "real me" inside him or herself.

At present, it is Illinois's only social service agency for the transsexual/transvestite community, and one of the very few in the Midwest. Gender Services is educationally oriented, but for those who wish a social outlet, the organization will refer you to three excellent organization/clubs in the area.

Kentucky Drag Club Raided

The first Southern drag controversy of the holiday season erupted on Dec. 13 in Paducah, Kentucky. There, Peggy Fuhr, a gay bar owner, had applied for the appropriate licenses to hold a drag show. She explained the function to city officials, got all the permits, and also got a contingent of Paducah police officers who raided the bar to arrest five of the entertainers for violating a Paducah ordinance banning cross-dressing.

Police apparently had been irked by drag queens in the Kentucky town and decided to nip the fad in the bud with the raid. Fuhr, however, is taking the matter to court, noting the city knew all along that she planned drag shows. Because of the publicity surrounding the arrests, she added, two of the busted drags have lost jobs while another was disowned by his family.

Investigate Police Killing Of War Hero in Drag

NEW YORK CITY—A Vietnam war hero was slain just outside the city limits of New York City, dressed in women's clothing. Allegedly, he threatened policemen with a gun. He was hit by bullets 18 times. The man, Harvey Aberles, 27 years, had been awarded a Silver Star for bravery during the Vietnam war, when he saved a group of soldiers caught under heavy enemy fire.

Police say that the incident occurred thusly: An officer saw a stationwagon parked near the posh Lawrence Golf Club. Investigating the empty car, the officer then heard voices coming from a nearby clump of trees.

Aberles, wearing a blonde wig, panties and bar under a woman's white robe, jumped out of the wooded area and pointed a gun at the policeman. Aberles ran when the officer yelled to him to drop his gun. When Aberles refused to drop the gun and threatened the policeman, who had then radioed for help, he was shot.

His neighbors describe the man as a hippy type, living in an apartment in the Queens district of New York, decorated with clippings of his war exploits. He was described further by his girl friend as being "not gay or anything. He was returning some of my clothes after a fight. He was a war hero . . . ."

Hormone Experiment Backfires

A man given sex treatment in an institution recently checked into an English hospital for removal of a breast. A case for damages has been brought against the British Department of Health following the experiments which began in 1971.

The National Association for Mental Health is bringing the suit, charging that at least 12 patients at the institution were given hormones, after being told it would help them get out.

The Association's Legal and Welfare Rights Officer contends that the patients were given hormones at regular intervals. As part of the treatment for this particular patient, an operation was performed on his breast to prevent its enlargement. However, this was done on only one breast, while the other one grew like a woman's.

Gay Marriages Illegal; But Not TSs

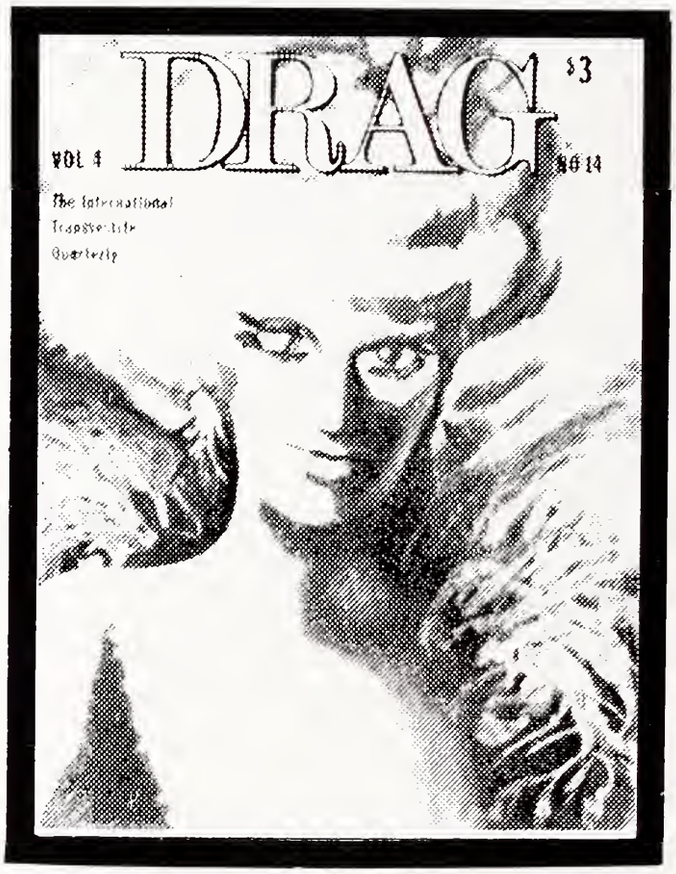
The Los Angeles County Clerk refuses to give marriage licenses to homosexuals wishing to marry. Usually, they use delaying tactics until the couple relents in their attempts. However, the county is currently being pressured by a couple who is insisting on their right to be wed. The Clerk's office has announced that they will refuse outright to honor this request.

While this controversy rages in California, the New Jersey Court System has quietly approved transsexual marriages. The only stipulation is that the other party must know prior to the marriage that the woman was in fact a transsexual. Once that is ascertained, the marriage is totally legal. The ruling resulted from a man trying to annul his marriage on the grounds that his wife was a transsexual, and thus avoid the alimony payments, which would evolve from a normal divorce proceeding. The TS wife will receive alimony.

"Gordon! If this is a girl's bike, what am I sitting on?"

Annual Awards at Gilded Grape: Drag Cover Girl Winner

Toni Stevens, Covergirl of DRAG #14, was the recipient of a "Broadway Award" earlier this month. The trophy is given annually by the Gilded Grape for the best performance in the Grape's regular Sunday night show. Toni's award was for best actress. Shows at the Grape follow a pre-selected theme, into which performers are asked to fit their numbers such as WEST SIDE STORY, or WONDERFUL WORLD OF BURLESQUE. Other winners included Miss Sherey as Best Supporting Actress, and Coco for Best One-(Wo)man Live Show. Once again the award affair was ably emceed by Timmy Scott, the Gilded Grape's Show Coordinator.



No Canopy for Gilded Grape, Says New York Mayor

In part of his effort to clean up Times Square in New York City, Mayor Beame's offices have removed the canopy from in front of the Gilded Grape. The canopy served to protect patrons of the club while waiting for cabs.

The club has been under intense pressure from residents of the area. Several TV interviews have pointed out "the men dressed as women." The building which houses the Grape is also a source of complaints. Tenents claim the Queens are creating an undesirable situation. Queens are known to parade down the side streets, and there is a clique who work as prostitutes. These are impossible to differentiate from the club's clientele, out for an evening's fun.

The situation has deteriorated to the point that when the owners of the Grape opened a new club in collaboration with others, all drags were banned. It is a pity for the innocent TV, looking only for a Saturday out. One group has made it bad for all drags by their antics, while the other has made its money from drags, but finds it unwise to welcome drags into their new establishment. They want to keep that place "classy." All this because a group of Queens can't behave like the ladies they try so hard to be. A similar situation is occurring in Boston.

New Society Carries On The Work of Erickson

It was announced that the Janus Society was being established to carry on the work of the Erickson Educational Foundation in the field of Gender Dysphoria. The Erickson was obliged to close its doors in February of 1977 due to a lack of funds.

The new group will be a division of the Gender Clinic of the University of Texas Medical branch, of which Paul Walker, PhD., is director. The Janus Society will conduct, research and distribute information and provide professional referrals.

The Janus Society was named after the Roman God Janus, the guardian of doors and gates, capable of seeing the past or the future, and new beginnings. Zelda Zuplee, the long-time associate of the Erickson Foundation, and formerly their East Coast representative, will function as director of the Janus Society.

FINNIE CROWNS HALLOWEEN QUEEN OF THE BALL

Halloween in Chicago means the Finnie Club's annual Halloween Ball, where men and women impersonate each other for top price of $200. Motel chain owner Herman Roberts (right) crowns "Tempest" 41st queen as ball general manager Eddie Plicque watches.

Names's the Same; Girl's Different Though!

Miss Doris Richards wants it known once and for all that she is indeed still a practicing female. Miss Richards shares the former name of Steve Dain, the female-to-male transsexual. It seems that Miss Richards has been getting phone calls from people trying to reach Steve. It's not that she minds so much; it is that many of the people are seeking some help, which she is unable to provide.

A similar case took place in Pennsylvania, when a regular subscriber of DRAG, Miss Teri Shannon, unknowingly adopted the name of another person who was listed in the phone book. She consequently apologized to both the man and his wife, who had been receiving calls asking for Teri Shannon, the man who dresses as a woman!

Two Miss Gay Tennessee?

Two Memphis gay bars fought in court over who had the most official "Miss Gay Tennessee."

Owners of George's Theatre Lounge — a gay bar that registered its "Miss Gay Tennessee" Service mark with the Tennessee Secretary of State last January — went to court on Dec. 15 to try to block The Other Side, another gay bar, from holding its contest, which was dubbed "The Official Miss Gay Tennessee Pageant." The latter "official" contest also was a registered service mark and had been franchised through a Hot Springs, Arkansas, organization that annually holds "The Official Miss Gay America Pageant."

The Memphis court ruled that the show must go on and denied the request for an injunction against the "official" pageant, noting that The Other Side Tavern's addition of the words "Official" and "Pageant" made the difference between the two. The matter is not over yet, however, as the bar owners behind the defeated "unofficial" pageant now say they will sue the official pageant.

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on your newsstand?

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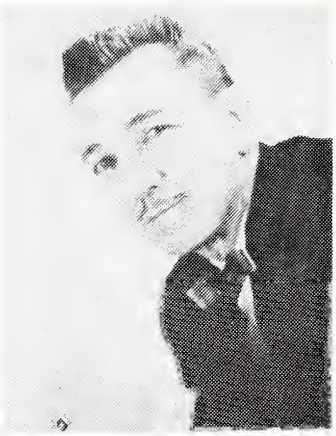
Doc Brenner of Jewel Box Revue Fame Passes Away



Doc Brenner

Doc Brenner, co-owner and founder of the Jewel Box Revue, died recently in Florida. Mr. Brenner founded and operated the famous impersonator troupe with his lifelong companion, Danny Brown. Together, they kept the most successful impersonation show of all time going for some thirty years, touring the United States and Canada. He had recently been living in retirement with the late Danny Brown, and died only scant months following the passing of his friend. The luxurious gowns and sets of the Revue were dispersed at auction.

What to Wear When Talking to a Politician

One civil rights group recently instructed its members on how to successfully lobby for their positions in state legislatures. Some of the advice included a section on dress codes for proper appearance."All lobbyists, men and women, should dress conservatively and neatly, in order to improve overall effectiveness . . . (nor is it now) appropriate any longer for women to wear dresses for lobbying. Please note, however, that men are advised not to wear dresses . . . and so on." Can you imagine that! Not even basic black and pearls ? ? ? ?

Electrolysis by Helen

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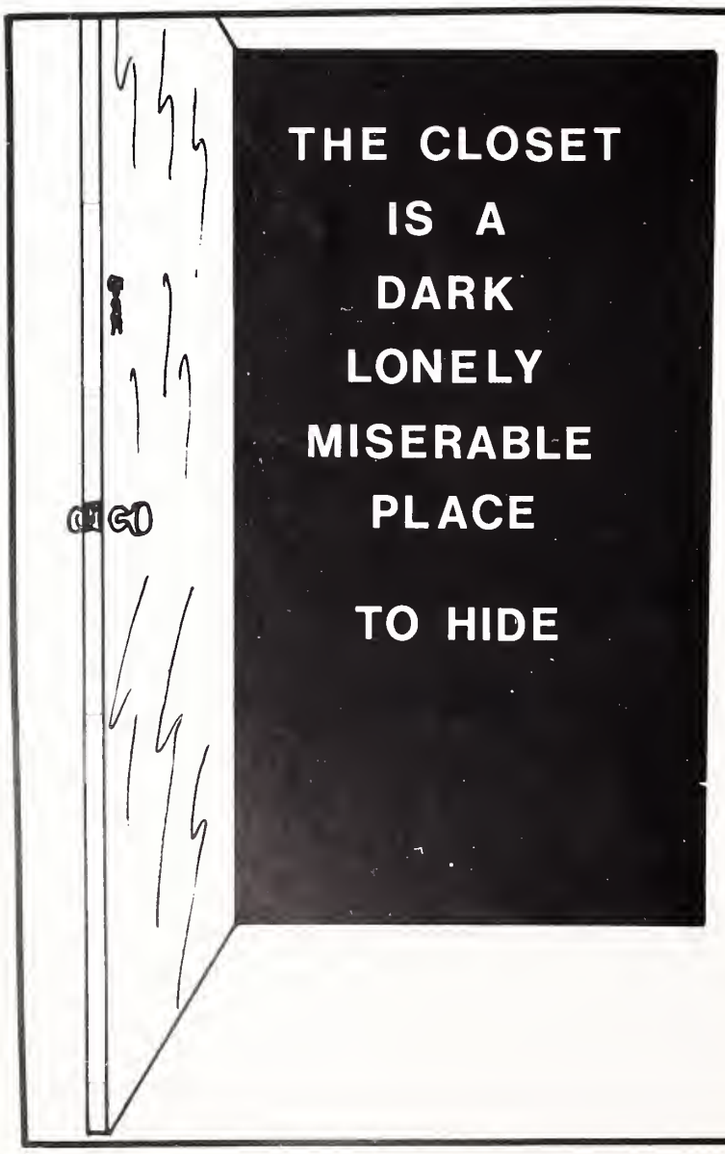

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Miss Gay America Threatened by Miss Universe

Gay America Pageants, Inc., a Syracuse-based corporation, announced recently a nationwide competition to select Miss Gay USA, Miss Transsexual USA, and Mr. Gay USA. With the inclusion of a transsexual category, the national pageant will be the first of its kind in the United States. The competition is split into four geographic divisions.

The Eastern Regional finals, with prizes totaling $20,000, will take place in New York City. Preliminaries will be held August 11 and 12 at the Statler Hilton Hotel. Finals will be the following evening, August 12, at the Felt Forum of Madison Square Garden.
other regions. Contestants for the female impersonator categories will be judged in Formal Attire, Swimsuits, Talent, and Personality.

Immediately upon the announcement of the contest, officials of the Miss Universe Pageant, usually seen on nationwide televisions from foreign countries, filed suit in NYC Supreme Court, charging infringement of title. It seems that the Miss Universe pageant has registered among its trademarks the titles Miss Universe, Miss USA Beauty Pageants and Miss United States Pageant. Miss Universe charges that there would be public confusion due to the similarity of the titles — which Miss Universe doesn't use, utilizing instead Miss USA Universe for its American contestants.

Attorneys for the Gay America Pageant contend that the Prefix "Gay" clearly shows a distinction between the contests, and would cause no confusion. However, rather than tie up time and money in a lawsuit, since Miss Universe has a staff designed to thwart any trademark infringement, even up to the U. S. Supreme Court, a compromise has been worked out.

The titles held by the winners will now be Miss Gay 1978, Mr. Gay 1978. DRAG will be announcing in a coming advertisement all the details of this contest for our readers, who may wish to participate in it.

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No, it wasn't the NAACP, just one of the Gay Rights groups. With the withdrawal of Queens Liberation Front from the gay movement, due to the lack of transvestite support for its efforts, and the retirement of such gay drag advocates as Sylvia Rivera, Gay groups are becoming more and more open in their anti-drag prejudices.

Whereas once just an undercurrent, many gay groups have taken to printing anti-drag propaganda in their by-laws, and excluding the participation of gay drags in their events. This includes banning Drags from New York's Gay Pride March.

TV Guide to Boston

- CHERRYSTONE, a social club for crossdressers that meets Wednesday evenings in the Boston Area, and has Galas on the third Saturday of Each month. Contact by writing OUTREACH, 102 Charles St., Suite 433, Boston, MA 02114

* * *

- CHRYSALIS, a support group for transsexuals. Write P. O. Box 333, Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02115.

* * *

- FANTASIA FAIR LTD. for information on 1977 plans, write to 102 Charles St., Suite 433, Boston, MA 02114.

* * *

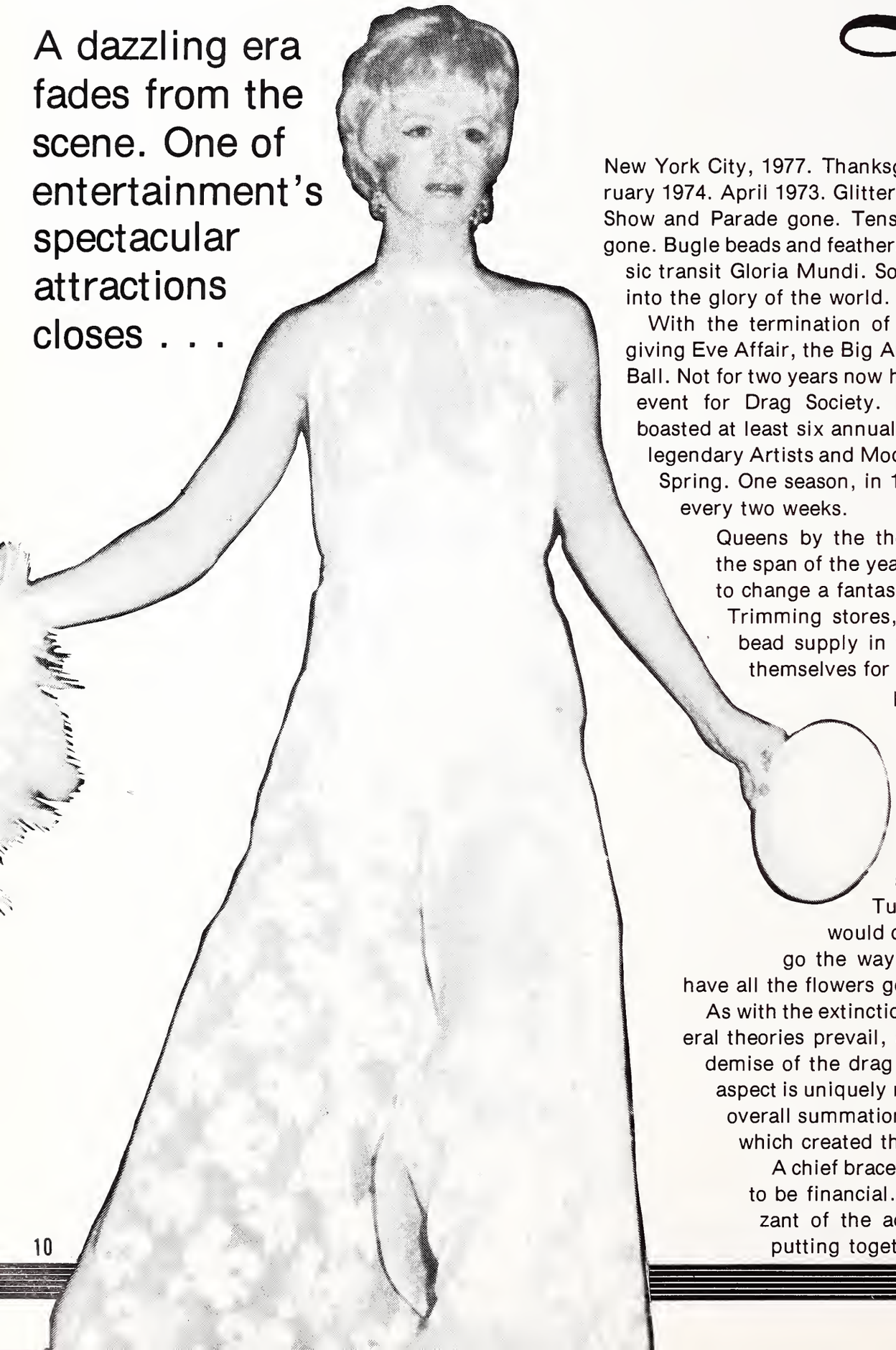
- GENDER IDENTITY SERVICE, professional help for transsexuals and those questioning their gender identity. 80 Boylston St., Boston, MA. Answering Service: 864-8181.

* * *

- OUTREACH, a resource for TVs, TGs and TSs and their families who want information, referral, or support. SPEAKERS available for professional and student groups. Write: 102 Charles St., Suite 433, Boston, MA 02114.

The Last

A dazzling era fades from the scene. One of entertainment's spectacular attractions closes . . .



New York City, 1977. Thanksgiving Eve 1976, February 1974. April 1973. Glitter gone. Trophies gone. Show and Parade gone. Tension gone. Excitement gone. Bugle beads and feathers gone. The Drag Ball, sic transit Gloria Mundi. So the Drag Ball passes into the glory of the world.

With the termination of Daisy Dee's Thanksgiving Eve Affair, the Big Apple lost its final Drag Ball. Not for two years now has there been a major event for Drag Society. New York City once boasted at least six annual major balls, from the legendary Artists and Models, to the Paris in the Spring. One season, in 1969, had a major ball every two weeks.

Queens by the thousand (literally over the span of the year) would labor months to change a fantasy creation into reality. Trimming stores, head-quarters of the bead supply in the city, would brace themselves for the yearly influx, as a particular shade of borealis was sought out. Tall Girl Shoe Stores would take down the box where the errr. . . "over size ten silver spikes" were kept. Turkeys and Ostriches would cower in fear, lest they go the way of the Egret. Where have all the flowers gone?

As with the extinction of the dinosaur, several theories prevail, as to the cause of the demise of the drag ball. Actually no one aspect is uniquely responsible. It was the overall summation of the many 'littles,' which created the omnipotent effect.

A chief brace of this juggernaut has to be financial. No one seems cognizant of the actual cost involved in putting together a successful drag

of the Balls

RIGHT: CAROL DURRELL was just one of the many headliners in the floor show. She stunned her audience with her fantastic voice and unequaled beauty.

ball. The general truism is that the operators open the door and that is it. It is also incorrectly assumed that the balls were reaping in the big bucks. The reality herein is that many struggled to keep their heads above water.

It has to be made note of that, in addition to obvious costs, such as printing tickets, there are hidden expenditures. Foremost among these are the ever-increasing demands of New York City's labor unions. While these people are protecting the rights of their membership to earn a living, the cost of this dedication must be borne by the entrepreneur.

In any ballroom, for example, a certain number of musicians must be hired. This is so, even if you don't wish to use a full orchestra. Usually a five-piece dance band is sufficient . . . However, bigger room contracts mandate upwards of ten pieces. Then, there are lighting and stage hands, if a show is involved. These costs must be made back before a profit can be realized.

The hotels themselves are not without fault. Real money at any affair comes from the sale of liquor. One room manager was quoted as saying: "I would pay Carol Durelle (an exceptionally gorgeous entertainer) $100, just to sit in my bar. We've never done the business we have now (with Carol) as when she was sitting there!. . ."

Other cities maintain the tradition of giving the room free or at minimal costs in return for the liquor and coat concession. Not so here any more. Hotels are now charging rentals, with an intention of making a profit on the room in addition to the concessions. A room for a sizeable crowd of 1500 to 2000 people is renting at about a dollar per person expected, or $1500 to $2000 up front A minute over contracted closing time costs an additional 3 or 4 hundred dollars in overtime.

If the ballrooms were in any condition, some of these costs could be justified. However, additional expense yet must be incurred by the ball promoter to hire a staff to set up the room to his specifications. Most of the ballrooms in Manhattan now give you much blank wall in nice institutional grey, or else truly tarnished gilt. Creating the proper atmosphere requires decorating.

Then, too, is the problem of location and annoyance of house rules. Rooms such as the Waldorf Astoria, or the Americana, prefer to rent to dinner affairs only. This would necessitate a ticket price of twenty to thirty dollars, just to cover the room rental. Many other rooms have decayed to the point of being non-usable. Even the Manhattan Center, once the bastion of the Artists and Models, and the focus of drag life in New York, has passed into the hands of the Reverend Moon's Unification Church.

With regards to location, certain areas of the city have unfortunately acquired reputations for being unsafe. Consequently, crowds would not be so apt to attend, for reasons of personal safety.

What of the major entrepreneurs of the ball social scene? Frankie Quinn abandoned his twice yearly affairs in 1974. Rising costs, a decline in patronage, and crime (he is said to have been robbed of door receipts) caused him to center his operations out of the City. Saul Siegal, his longtime partner, has retired to Florida. The grand old man of the ball scene, Mr. Phil Black, has passed on. Phil had a crowd which grew old with him and followed him every where, though the last years were showing a reduction in attendance. Phil was a first and his loss is irreplaceable.

Tish, long-time owner-operator of the successful touring female impersonation show, "The French Box Revue," and perennial emcee of the Daisy Dee Thanksgiving Eve Ball in Brooklyn, gave her views: "The scene got to be too rough in the City. You'd have all kinds of tension. Not just racial (which there was), but between rival crowds. Each crowd had a favorite, and when the favorite wouldn't win, hell broke loose.

A point noticed by Tish was the different types which the City balls were drawing as of late. Gays had become upwards of 75% of the attendance at balls. This, in turn, turned off a lot of straights who had formed the bulk of any drag event. This gay element looked with a certain contempt upon the drags and, while enjoying the ball, actively encouraged the tension and fights as another example of the "dizzy Queens" acting up. This different attitude began to affect all levels of attendance.

The success of Daisy Dee's Thanksgiving Ball at the Cotillion Terrace largely depended upon straight attendance. Daisy held the last ball in New York City, with Emcee Tish in 1975. But personal problems, rising costs and a lessening willingness of contestants able to travel to Brooklyn, caused Daisy to cancel last year's affair.

Lee Brewster decided to terminate his association with Drag Balls with a spectacular 2,000-person bash in 1974. Lee declares that this last affair satisfied him. "There was too much work involved to make it successful, work largely unappreciated. . ." Now, Lee points to a lack of "live Female Impersonators. capable of

working to a large crowd'' for his entertainment at the ball. The show, which he gave at the last ball, is considered by many to be a high point in Drag entertainment. It featured many stars and appealed to both straights and gays, with a dazzling display of artistry, and highlighted by the final performance of Chris Moore. It was called by a person in attendance ''the best show in New York, nut just drag show, but the best show in New York that year.''

The climate of drag life in the Big Apple has undergone a drastic change. Whereas it was once

considered vogue and chic to be a participant in a drag ball, it is now considered passé.

A good deal of this attitude must be attributed to yet another aspect of the transsexual phenomenon. You see, the bulk of New York City's crossdressers now consider themselves to be women.

Even Lee, though, had to comment upon the tension, the near fights, and the total lack of cooperation of the "ball queens." "I would stage their entrances, I even had a set built for them, to make them look more spectacular, but those bitches insisted upon not following the contest rules, and attempting to ruin the night. I didn't need that! The same crowd over and over."

It cannot be denied, the parade and contest aspects of the drag ball were ruined by the ball queens themselves. Shows at the balls are severely limited now by a lack of new talent. But what of the people, the 90% or so, who

ABOVE: We thought we would treat you to a closeup of the girls who were so willing to show us their legs. . . . Their faces are just as lovely.

BELOW: Shown with the mask is the glamorous CHRIS MOORE in her final Mardi Gras appearance.

A double entry in the costume competition. Notice the calypso theme in the boy's shirt and how it is carried over in the queen's costume. It usually took weeks to put all the sequins and beads on a particular costume. Queens would prepare six months before a ball to get everything right . . .

made up the bulk of attendance at the event?

Women, then, just don't become participants in events which glorify the female impersonator — something considered "freakish." This type of life would be all right for drag queens, but not for "real girls."

The dress code of a ball also dictates evening gowns and hairdos. Certainly, finesse is expected in makeup. "Real women" don't dress up any more. Nor, do they wear makeup, even if beards show through. Consequently, the whole essence of being a transsexual is antithetical to the concepts of the drag ball.

The pecking order of Drag society is such now that the transsexual is at the top, while the 'transey' grovels at the bottom. So if even a desire for fun compelled a queen to attend a ball, her peer group would be disdainful.

The last few years of the balls were affected by this: There were fewer and fewer elaborate costumes and more simple looks with the emphasis on "realness." Realness came in whilst theatricity went out. It's a pity, too, that no one wanted to, or perhaps just lacked the necessary creativity to combine the both elements into something spectacular . . .

It is a notable flaw in the psychological makeup of the transsexual that they must follow complete stereotypic female ordered behavior, whether necessary or not. This unfortunately compels them to remove and create distinctions between themselves and the rest of drag society.

This same attitude also makes the transsexual reek with contempt from anything which might smack of being too "draggy," that is, a man in a dress — something which they cannot come to grips with at any extent. This precludes any participation, or even attendance, at a drag ball.

As for the dyed in the wool ball queens, fewer and fewer people, and rightly so, are amused at their antics. Also, they have so threatened off outside competition that they themselves no longer feel it necessary to go through the intense work required for elaborate outfits. For the most, they have taken to reusing old, identifiable gowns; thus, they eliminate their sole reason for being, the show they created in themselves. Lord only knows, there is nothing as tiresome as a queen in last year's dress.

Celebrity TV Rock Star: Wayne County. Other stars who attended Lee's last ball were Shirley McLain, Jacqueline Susann, and Cy Coleman . . . .

Costumes traditionally ran the gamut from street wear to high glamour to a do-it-yourself, leave-'em gasping!!! Sometimes the males out of drag posed and paraded more effeminately than the queens themselves, but not these two!!! Strictly Costumes traditionally ran the gamut from streetwear to high glamour to a do-it-yourself leave-em gasping!!! Sometimes the males out of drag posed and paraded more effeminately than the queens themselves, but not these two!!! Strictly macho.

There is another important reason for the decline of drag balls in New York City that hasn't been discussed yet. That is society's attitude toward them. Previous to the let-live 70's, the drag was the only legal night out for men in dresses. According to the Cabaret Laws, by which all balls were governed, there was a clause which regulated the appearance of men wearing dresses, except at special occasions. No other time was anyone allowed, legally, in a club or at a show, who was masquerading.

Consequently, the ball was the only social outlet of the time. This particular point of view is lent tremendous credence by the fact that cities today, which still have very successful balls, are those which most severely restrict the appearance of Drags on the street. Los Angeles is chief among these. Chicago, too, though since the elimination of Drag laws there, a decline has been somewhat noticed, and indications are that the years will tell the same story as Gotham.

Here in New York City Drag is perfectly legal in the street, so long as she is by herself and not prostituting. A drag can go out any night to almost any place. Therefore, the anticipation and necessity of that one night has been diffused. So, without interest or energy upon which to feed, the drag ball has died in New York.

There is still minor hope. Frankie Quinn holds a parade of queens, after his regular show at a Staten Island nightclub, once a year. Tish says Daisy has renewed her contract at the Cotillion Terrace for a possible ball this year. Gene Chandler and Ty Bennet, of the 82 Club fame, are sponsoring a Miss Gay contest to be held this summer at the Felt Forum of Madison Square Garden. All are in planning, and we wish them the best of luck and success. As for me, I'll keep a bugle-beaded gown handy, just in case. . . .

The First Lady of Drag accepts obeisance from one of the many maids in the audience . . . .

Lovely Toya won Queen of the Ball.

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In Memoriam

Pam Nolan —An Appreciation

I had, last night, without preparation or warning, a piece of agonizing news.

I was talking to a friend in New York who told me that Pam Nolan, from Albany, was killed in a car crash over the holidays.

In the seven years I knew her, I only met Pam once, for about four hours, when she and her girl friend made a brief visit to San Francisco.

Pam was a partial TS who was on hormone therapy, but had had no surgery.

She was also one of the best people I've ever known. No one I've ever met enjoyed life more, or lived it more fully.

I once helped her to gather material to fight a custody suit brought by her ex-wife who was trying to have her declared an unfit parent because of her TSism.

The possible outcome worried her, because she loved her children very much. Still, she put everything into the battle, and in a way, enjoyed it. It was a challenge to be met. She gave it everything she could, and she won.

I knew her mostly from letters, and I confided to her things that I never told anyone else.

She offered advice when it was requested, sympathy when it was needed, and help whenever she could possibly give it.

There was a time a couple of years ago that I don't think I could have gotten through without her. It was then she let me know that, if things ever got to be too much for me out here, there was always a place for me back there, whenever I needed it, for as long as I needed it.

She was a very beautiful girl, and she found me attractive which was a great boost for an often shaky ego.

One of the things that aches inside me now is that we never had a chance to make love.

When I met her, I didn't yet know where my head (and my sexuality) were at. When I first began to realize it, Pam was the person I told, and she shared my joy and wonder at it.

A couple of years ago we both realized how nice it would be to experience each other. We had shared so much it seemed only right.

Perhaps the greatest, most hurtful irony is that, after a long time of talking about it, I had, only a few days before the news came, decided to go back to New York, partly for business, but mostly to visit Pam.

I feel empty and sad. The good times will be a little less bright and the bad times a little heavier because I can no longer share them with her.

I spent four hours with her in a lifetime. The rest of the time she was three thousand miles away.

But I loved her very much, and I will miss her very much.

I don't think I'll go back to New York. Not this year.

. . . . Linda Lee

Ricky

RECENT DEBUTANTE

We have had many successes with our debutantes, here at DRAG, but Ricky is something special. Her bright smile and cheery personality will warm you, the reader, as much as it does us. She hails from Tennessee, and is in the true tradition a Southern Belle. Ricky arrived breathless and anticipatory of a wild time in the sinful Big Apple — Do we really have that reputation? Her chief desire was to see

bright lights and take in the Broadway theatre, something always heard about in the country. She arrived at DRAG Magazine headquarters, got into drag, another long-time desire, and has yet to make a Broadway show, though she has visited several times now. Each shot we have of Ricky shows off another good feature. We thought we would feature her as our chief Debutante, and share her loveliness with you'all. Watch out, Scarlett O'Hara!!

Girl Talk

With this issue, Drag Magazine introduces a Girl Talk page, wherein ideas, letters to the editor, and questions can be asked and discussed. All letters sent to Drag will be considered available for Girl Talk unless specifically mentioned otherwise. Come on, Readers. Chatter Away . . . .

Dear Lee,

Historically mankind has been ignorant of complexities of sex and gender role causation. The response to extreme role confusion has been to cast out the misfit from society and in some cases regard him with superstitious awe. In either case the individual is given no chance to live an ordinary life among his fellow Man.

The transsexual wants as much as anyone to heed the advice of the positive thinkers. "You need never be anyone but exactly who you are. This sets you free." Psychotherapy, hormone treatments and surgery to alter the body and bring it into closer conformity with their psyche have set many of these persons free — free to work, free to love and be loved.

But even then they are not free. The courts and legislative people refuse to rule in favor of transsexual persons even when they are legally in the right. These so-called professional people act solely on the basis of their own emotions and repulsions rather than medical or legal reasons. We consider their actions to be arbitrary, capricious and prejudicial by denying people their God-given right to live in happiness and peace as a human being.

Chrysalis, an organization of transsexual persons, has decided to fight. In order to do this we need your help and support. You may not consider this your fight. However, whenever any person of any sexual minority is denied their right, we all begin to lose those things we have. It wasn't long ago that none of us could be proud and stand up for what we are.

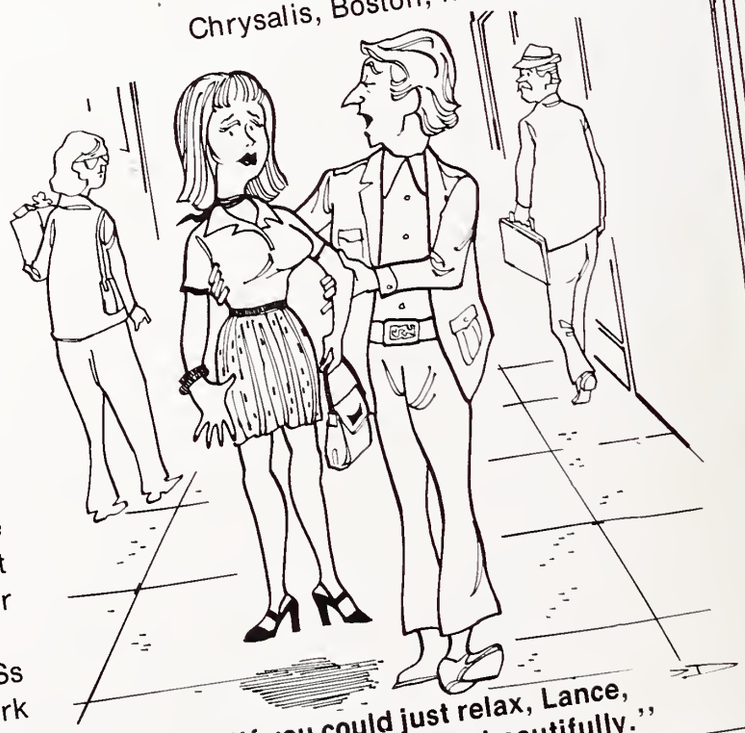
It's about time the gays, TVs and TSs break down the barriers between us and work together. United we stand; divided we stand still wishing something would happen.

We know of your hard work trying to obtain new and better laws. It is our hope that we can work together in a common cause. At the present time we are trying to unite the New England transsexuals into one loud voice. After all the American Revolution began in Boston, so why not the unity of all transsexuals across the country. Hopefully other groups of transsexuals will see what we are doing and unite, also.

As we see it an active line of communication among ourselves to iron out the differences created by ignorance and a holier than thou attitude would be the first step in a united effort.

Chrysalis hopes to hear from you and others in gaining support for achieving the goals of all.

Sincerely yours, Ms. Barbra Freyn
Corresponding Secretary
Chrysalis, Boston, Mass. 02215



"If you could just relax, Lance, you'd be able to pass beautifully."

Dear Lee,

I want to congratulate you and the staff of DRAG as you enter your 7th year.

The content of your magazine, and Vicky West's beautiful artwork, make every issue an event.

I hope someday I'll be able to meet you beautiful ladies in person.

I feel I can speak for the majority of my TV sisters as I wish you and your staff continued good luck and happiness.

Love, Kathy Kay Davis

Dear Editor:

Congratulations on your wonderful magazine, which you really keep on improving every issue. Please consider my subscription as permanent.

Since I appeared in the inside back cover of DRAG, No. 20, I have been trying hard to improve my pictures, to be sent to you and to the numerous TVs who answered my ad.

As you can imagine, photography is harder for the group of TVs we can call "closeted," because we are alone not only in dressing, but also when we have to face the camera.

You can imagine our predicament when — I repeat — alone, we have to dress up without help of anyone, apply makeup with false eyelashes included, a wig whose long hair entangles with everything, 6" heels in tight shoes, tight gloves, whaled corset with six garters to pull, and when you take a last look in the mirror, you notice the lashes damaged the makeup which must be repaired . . . and you have to take off your tight gloves and painful heels and restart your makeup, eliminating some perspiration drops which were starting to appear due to heat and nervousness . . . !

When at last you are ready, strutting along in your sky high heels, with some stumbling, also, you face the camera and, at that very moment, you seem to have forgotten all you have learned on how to pose the model and even your face, due to the makeup and transformation, becomes stiff and smile is difficult for you, as it was your plan to do.

All that is happening to us and much more, Dear Editor. But this is not all. A picture all dolled up must be taken, yes, but by whom? There is no expert photographer around to take it, to make the proper arrangements of lights, of your dress, of your position, location, angle of camera . . . and nobody to press the shutter, to focus the camera and advance the film, and to say: "one, two, three" . . . yes, nobody but you!

So, you, terribly alone, have to be not only the model but also the photographer — two persons so different in nature and preparation have to be incarnated and impersonated by only one: YOU! or else there is no picture.

So now, strutting, you go back to the camera and try to focus well the place you will occupy in spite of your gloves and false eyelashes, the ones longer than you ever though . . . having in the process stumbled with the tripod and moved the mirror behind the camera.

You go back to your model's place, look at the mirror for the last moment adjustments of your dress and you try for a pose. If you are happy with it, then the moment has arrived for pressing the shutter. You anxiously look for your best smile and the flash comes to light. The picture is made at last . . . and you feel happy!

This is the problem of closeted TVs: You have to be a woman and at the same time a photographer and model. Do we deserve a medal for doing the job of three people? If you have tried like myself, you will think so. We are really forced heroes. . .

In the ending I want you to take note that there are no ugly shadows around the model in these pictures and this was achieved by placing the flash very near and on top of the lens, flash being horizontal. A mirror was located behind the camera so as to see the exact effect of the model in it up to the last moment in which I just pull a thin string attached to the timer and this one to the shutter. This way you can check your position up to the last moment and correct it for a perfect result.

Another advantage in having the mirror is that you can have in your pictures the intriguing shine in your black patent leather shoes. It is just a question of similarity of angles: the angle in which you see the shoes reflected in the mirror must be the same that the angle in which the camera sees it. Simple! The angle just changes when you sit or kneel. You have to measure this angle.

Truly yours, DENISE
Foreign - Box 12973

PROBLEMS OF THE CLOSET

Dear Lee,

I'm 34, married, 3 kids, a high(?) paid executive. We have a lovely home and a comfortable life. Only one minor problem — I am a transvestite. I have been a TV since before I knew there was such a thing. I love femininity, I adore it! My wife does not "know" and never will, I'm sure. I live upstate near Syracuse and only occasionally get to the city. My last two trips I shopped at Salem's TV Boutique buying about $300.00 worth of hard to buy items — garterbelts, stockings, bras, padded girdles, etc.

Yes, I found the lingerie and foundations I was looking for, but not very much understanding or compassion. I used to travel a lot and dress each night in my motel. I also practiced dressing, did body exercises, practiced cosmetics and was 100% feminine for five or six nights a month — bath oil, perfume, wigs — the works. And I loved and treasured those hours. My dressing is now limited to a stolen hour or so when my wife is out and the kids are in bed. No more leisurely afternoons in a hot tub with bubbles and bath oils, followed by an all-over cache splash - slip into new panties, pantyhose and bra - cover up

with a short peignoir - to the dressing table for the wig and eye makeup and lipstick. The rest of the evenings were spent in whatever fit my mood (not necessarily my body). Sometimes hot pants and body stocking over a padded girdle with white boots. Maybe a skirt and blouse or something more exotic like a pantsuit from Fredericks with "second skin" pants and an admirable cleavage via Lilyette and a low-cut Fredericks top.

If I was feeling sexy, I'd put on a pink push-up bra, garterbelt, black stockings under a sexy babydoll. If I felt feminine - ultra-feminine - it was lacy bikini panties - a lacy Bali Snoflake bra - Christian Dior pantyhose under a soft lacy negligee. After dressing in accordance with my mood, the evening was spent reading fashion magazines. For four years I never missed an issue of Glamour, Cosmo, Seventeen, Vogue, Mademoiselle, etc. (I still read as many fashion mags as I can sneak in each month).

Sleeping was always a joy, rolling around the cool sheets feeling my stockinged legs, snug bra cups and soft lacy lingerie against my body; coupling the feeling of super femininity with the slight but distinct taste of my lipstick, the smell of my body oil, the sounds of rustling lingerie and stockings rubbing together, and the sight of my feminine body in the dim light I left burning. All this resulted in a feeling of total femininity which I have been unable to obtain for almost two years.

The first night of my trip was usually spent in a semi-sleepless state as I would just lie in bed enjoying my femininity. I would also feminize my room by hanging bras, panties, etc., around the room and, of course, fashion mags were scattered about and the bathroom was lined with cosmetics, including a feminine deodorant spray (I found it enjoyable to spray my genitals after bathing). I have two "leaf" bags full of my female things and was about to start a third when I was transferred. That was a nice promotion and would certainly be wonderful for family life, but it about ruined my feminine life. I had to discard at least $500 worth of my feminine wardrobe, cosmetics, etc., saving only three or four of my favorite bras, some pantyhose, panties, one girdle and the basic cosmetics.

All my shoes, skirts, slacks, sweaters, bodysuits, about 30 brassieres, garter girdles, garterbelts, ten pantygirdles of various styles, three all-in-ones, two wigs, babydoll PJs, peignoir sets, negligees, etc., went into the trash. Lee, I felt like I was leaving behind a very dear lady — Carol Taylor — my female self. Oh, sure, I got a chance to dress a little, but like tonight - the wife is out and I'm enjoying my bra, panties and pantyhose for a few hours, but only under my male clothing and there's that constant fear that my wife might come home early, or one of the kids could get up.

As much as I would like my wife to meet Carol, I don't think it would be a very good relationship, since Carol is much more feminine than she. While Sue (my wife) is home reading Businessweek, I am late at the office drooling over the new Glamour feature on bras. I have always indulged in only the finest outer and underwear (Bali, Warners, Vanity Fair, Olga, Vassarette, etc.). My wife, however, still wears the 34A $1.99 lovable cotton bras from high school. I'm sure you have noticed that I do love brassieres. I do not consider myself a fetishist in this regard although technically I may be. You see I have been blessed since childhood with an unnaturally large bosom. As a child I was constantly harassed by my peers about my big "boobs." It was really very embarrassing to appear in a bathing suit or even a 'T' shirt because I knew what would happen: "Gee, Taylor, yours are bigger than my sister's," or "Hey, Taylor, you forgot your bra."

Well, on the first count, they were usually quite correct, since in those years my only source of bras, panties, etc., was the bureau drawers of my friends' sisters. The sizes were 28AA on up to a 36B of a very (for her age of 13 or so) busty neighbor. I started with a 32A and grew into a 32B which was my size for perhaps five years. Gradually age, exercises and weight have taken me through the padded, contour and finally the natural cup stages of 34B and 36B. Presently, I do wear a 36B and I find underwired bras the most comfortable and my favorites are Bali, Warners, Maidenform, Gossard, Olga, Vassarette, etc., although I know there are many fine brands I have never tried.

Having worn a bra virtually every chance I have had since age 10 or 11 and having purchased at least 100 or more over the past ten

years, and keeping current on the "underworld" via fashion magazines, I do think I might be considered almost an expert on bras. I have amazed many a salesgirl in some very fine stores when it came to my ability to purchase bras "for my wife." Perhaps the most fun I ever had was just before closing of a very high quality women's store. I was searching the brassiere section for a new bra and found an amazing selection. A saleswoman about my age asked if she could help. I gave her the usual "want to buy a bra for my wife" routine and she asked the size and pointed out some pretty little numbers which weren't what I was looking for. After some additional searching and discussion, she told me I seemed to know more about brassieres than most women (who know very little). I told her I had previously been employed by Bali about three years ago and that my wife had not had a new bra since. We enjoyed a lengthy chat until well after the store closed which was really fun for me. Lingerie and foundations were her business and she said it was great to talk to someone who was so well-versed. Anyway, I bought four new bras.

When I lived in NYC I never had the nerve to shop at Salem's which at that time was right on Madison Ave. I did, however, go there three times since they moved to 57th Street and I was really up for the experience — which was disappointing. It was, however, nice to find magazines such as DRAG and SHEMALE which told stories about and by TVs like me. Of course, those magazines were full of Lee Brewster, and I was glad to get you on the phone and find out about your boutique and the two-hour counseling session. I am enclosing the $25 advance for Monday, June 14, at 8 p.m. — although I do hope to get there before then if I can get the time and an appointment.

I was not too surprised to learn that many do not show up for their appointments, although I can assure you I will make every effort to do so. TVism is a very real part of my life! I'm tired of feeling guilty about it and I know it won't go away. I can't tell anyone, but I can meet with you even if you only listened for two hours. From what I have read I think you will understand.

My urge to dress goes up and down, sometimes almost disappearing, for weeks at a time. At other times it is so strong that I wear panties and pantyhose to work. When I drive long distances alone, I will frequently "underdress," i.e., wear bra, panties and stockings under my male clothes. Back in my traveling days I always wore panties and pantyhose or stockings under my suit, sometimes a girdle and even a bra a few times. I often wondered if a client might notice a tinge of lipstick, a touch of eye shadow, a bit of mascara or my cache.

Lee, I think you are the understanding and helpful person I have been seeking. You seem to be truly dedicated to helping people like me. I gave you some information on the phone, but let me tell you a little more about my physical body. Height - 5'10", weight - 185 (I'm on a diet!), waist - 36", neck - 15½, blue eyes, blond hair. I would particularly like to try on nd buy (1) some new tricot brief panties; (2) pantyhose; (3) an unpadded fanny forming girdle, medium leg style; (4) good quality underwire bras; (5) an all-in-one that would fit me! (6) baby doll PJs.

Please excuse the different inks and disconnected thoughts. I'm writing this when and where I have a chance. . . a little at work, a little at home, etc.

I guess that gives you a pretty good rundown on me. Basically, I'm an average buy who enjoys femininity. I'm heterosexual and have a strong sex drive with a preference for oral sex — don't know what that has to do with anything except that my wife has only about 10% as much sex drive as do I. Fortunately, she shares my desires for oral sex, but our sex is a once every two months deal. Consequently, I must work things out for myself every day or so.

I'm enclosing some clippings with notations. I don't know how your boutique is stocked, but I marked some recent ads that caught my eye. I suggested to Salem's that they establish a "buyers' service" to purchase advertised clothing, lingerie and foundations for TVs and sell it to them at double the price — I even worked out an ad program for them along the lines of "Your Femininity — A Bargain at Twice the Price." Of course, I never got a response.

To put it briefly — Femininity turns me on.

I look forward to meeting you.

Carol Taylor

Dear Lee,

Please don't laugh about my wish to have your brochure on the tour to Mardi Gras 1978. I am one year too early, or perhaps five years too late. Five years ago, I started crossdressing and am very happy to have the chance to dress from time to time. This year I am in France at NICE for Mardi Gras as a "dompteuse."

Since five years ago, however, I have had a strong desire to join you going to New Orleans for Mardi Gras. Unfortunately, all magazines I can buy here in Germany or France (Paris) are one or two years old. Therefore, I never can get a subscription in time. In order to get newer material on TVs and crossdressing, I send you my subscription for DRAG and CROSSDRESSER.

Love, Yvonne

Dear Lee,

You may or may not remember us, but my wife and I stopped by in October on our way back to Japan. At that time we discussed the availability of TV places in Japan. A few weeks ago we went to Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan. We went to a place called "C'est Bon," which according to the Spartacus guide was a TV bar. It is only a TV bar a few times a year on holidays. They did tell us about a TV bar called UTA which is a TV cocktail lounge with a floor show six nights a week. There are three girls: TONI, (the owner), MISAO, and YUKI. TONI speaks English and was very hospitable. Most TV bars in Japan don't allow foreigners. We went there two nights during one weekend stay. I went in drag both nights and was very well-received and made to feel at ease — actually the first time since we started our drag scene. They were so cordial and helpful — found us a cheaper hotel, called taxis for us, etc.

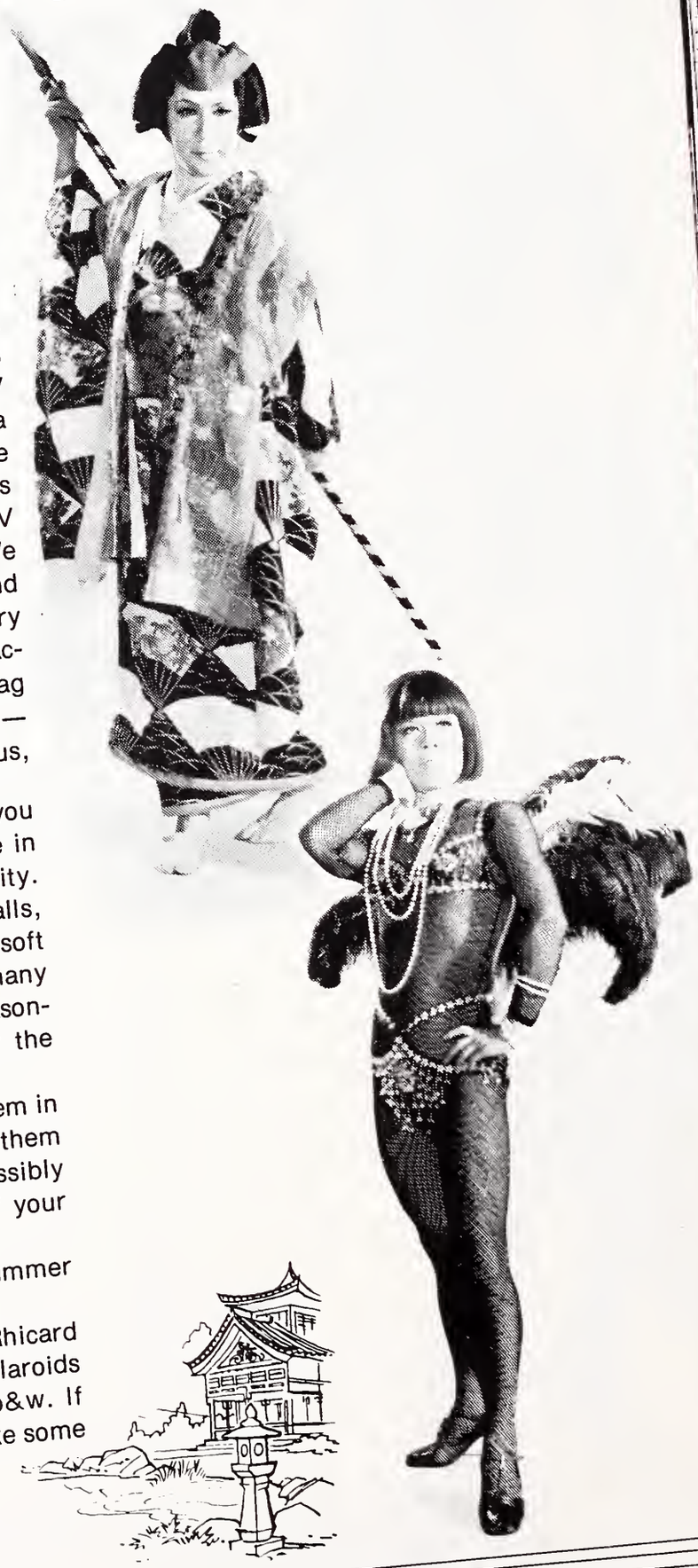
I told them I'd write to you and tell you about their place. It is a beautiful lounge in an out-of-the-way place yet right in the city. It is beautifully decorated with ceiling, walls, and floor a kind of fur you'd find on a soft bearskin rug. It is not a rip-off joint as many others are in Japan. Drinks are very reasonable with a $2.00 minimum charge for the evening.

I'm sending along three pictures of them in the hope that you may be able to print them in your next issue. If not, could you possibly mail them back with our next issue of your magazine.

We will be back in the states this summer and hope to drop by again.

Sincerely, Terry & Jan Rhicard

P.S. Am also enclosing a couple of polaroids in color. We know you only print in b&w. If these look half way decent, we will take some black & whites, if it is your wish.



Jean Michele Peters

JEAN MICHELLE PETERS : A PROFILE IN A COURAGEOUS LEGAL OVERTURN OF DETROIT'S DRAG LAWS

Jean Peters, a resident of Detroit, Michigan, has won her legal battle to live her lifestyle free from harassment. A pre-op transsexual at the onset of these proceedings, she had been living a cross-dressing lifestyle. Tired of constant police harassment, detention and arrest, Jean and a group of friends decided to beat the system at its own game — in the courts. We'll let her detail her story through one of the many letters we received from her throughout this event.

"By the time you read this letter, cross-dressing should be legal in the City of Detroit. I, along with another transsexual and a transvestite, decided to do something about the law in Detroit. I appeared in DRAG #9, pps. 40-41 . . . People change, and I am on the journey to womanhood. In July of 1973, I started hormones and having my beard removed. The hormones have made me and my face much more femme. I have a figure that is better than I dreamed it would be. By December of 1973, I was living and working full-time as a woman. Being a pre-op transsexual has really given me much insight into the world I should have known in the beginning. It's not easy sometimes, but the reward is much greater than the pain of being in the pre-op stage.

"I have discarded my wigs over a year ago and have long streaked blonde hair. You're liable to see me dressed in very sexy clothes, which I love to wear, when going out. Later this year, I'm going to have some plastic surgery done on my face. I've had my nose tilted earlier this year — but I'm going to have more done to my nose and chin. All this is to help my femme appearance. I read DRAG and other magazines you publish and enjoy them very much.

"I notice how you fight to change the cross-dressing laws. I wanted to write and let you know that I, as well as others, have the same feeling. I hope I have done somethin g for those in Detroit who are TSs and TVs. Now they should have no fear of cross-dressing laws in this city. I should be coming to New York in the near future and would love to meet you. . ."

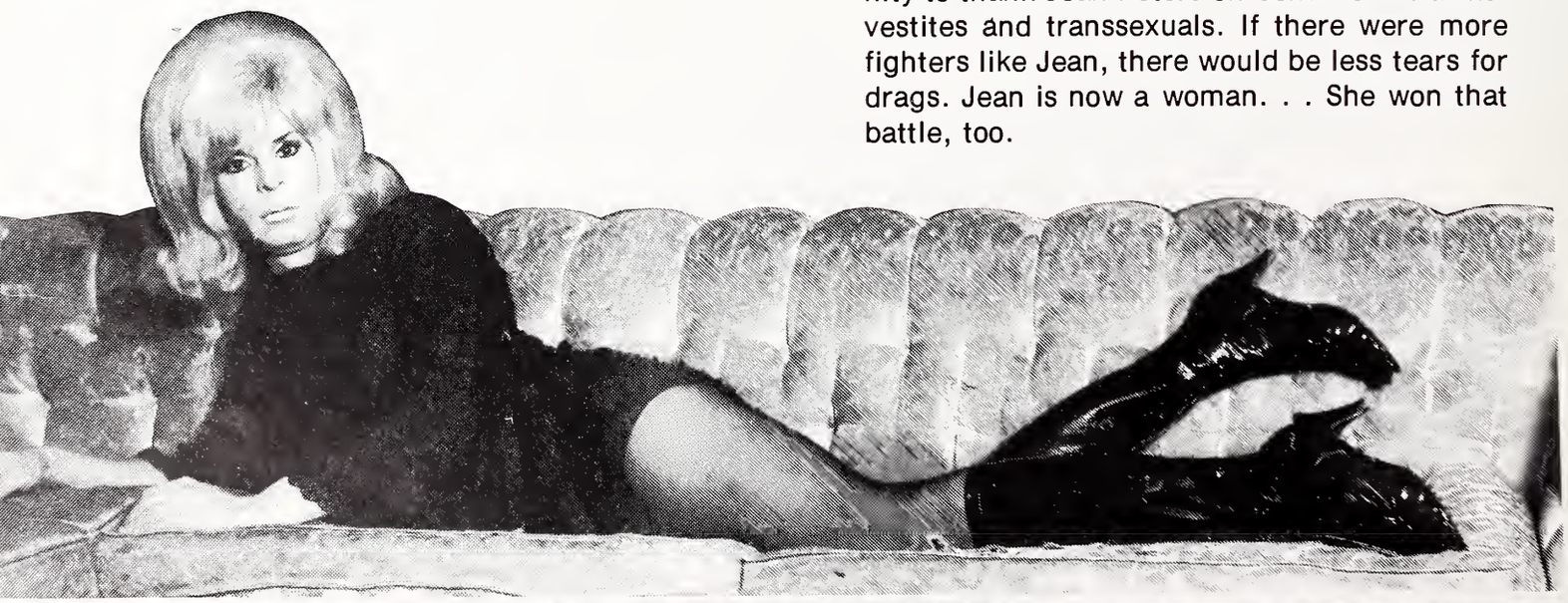
Jean Michelle Peters — a transsexual who has fought a valiant battle to overturn Detroit's drag laws. Living as a woman, in preparation for her total sex change, Jean had been constantly harassed and arrested by police simply for wearing feminine clothes. Now, she hopes TSs and TVs should "have no fear of cross-dressing in this city."

It was during this transitory period from male to female that Jean and her friends were first arrested. Rather than plead guilty, the group decided to fight the laws on the grounds of constitutionality. It was argued that the laws do not take into consideration the lack of criminal intent on the part of most cross-dressers, that they are selectively enforced — and there are no official guidelines to differentiate male from female attire, and that, with today's fashion, such guidelines were impossible to define. The case was heard before Judge John Kirwan by attorneys from the Civil Liberties Union.

Rather than deal with the case, on the constitutionality issue, Judge Kirwan, nonetheless, struck the anti-drag ordinance down, due to the inability to distinguish male from female attire, and by the fact that females were not forbidden to wear male dress.

A key witness for the defense was a fashion expert at the Detroit Free Press, who indicated throughout her testimony that clothes had become sexless. Judge Kirwan then ruled that if an expert can see little or no distinction between female and male attire, then how could someone of average intelligence (i.e., a vice cop) be expected to make this distinction.

With the decision of Judge Kirwan, this law becomes null and void. We take this opportunity to thank Jean Peters on behalf of all transvestites and transsexuals. If there were more fighters like Jean, there would be less tears for drags. Jean is now a woman. . . She won that battle, too.



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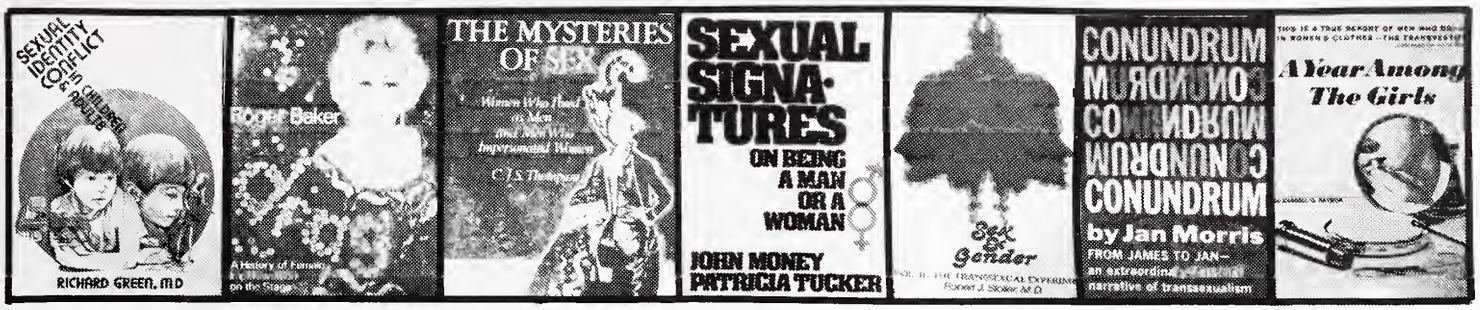

#341. LIFE'S A DRAG! [Danny La Rue and the Drag Scene] by Peter underwood. $7.50

Life's a Drag! — An evocative title for a very contemporary and compelling book! While it is true that there have been forms of drag, both private and public, since earliest times, as a form of modern entertainment drag in recent years has developed into a phenomenon which is now a world-wide multi-million pound entertainment industry in itself. This penetrating study, giving a depth background of the world drag scene, is, however, primarily a book about one drag artist — the hugely successful Danny La Rue,, himself a veritable Industry of Drag and unquestionably the highest paid performer of this type in the world. (Illustrated) 192 pages.

#573. The Mysteries of Sex: C.J.S. Thompson. $5.95

Here are studies of some of the most extraordinary men and women of history. Here are women who successfully fought as soldiers, pirates, and highwaymen; men who dressed and lived as women undetected for a lifetime. All have in common the overwhelming desire to pretend to being other than what nature made them.

#521. SEX & GENDER, VOL II: THE TRANSSEXUAL EXPERIMENT. Robert J. Stoller, M.D. 316 pages $15.00

First the author describes in detail primarily by means of observations gathered in the treatment of transsexual patients — children and adults — and their parents, his concept of transsexualism. He presents data to support his belief that transsexual males are feminized not by a biological aberration but by forces at work within the family, starting at birth and persisting without interruption throughout the boy's first several years of life.

#331. SEXUAL IDENTITY CONFLICT IN CHILDREN AND ADULTS* by Richard Green, M.D.
#330 Paperback $3.95
#331. Hardcover $15.00

Here is an intimate look at children and adults so unhappy with their anatomical sexuality that they seek magical or surgical change. Richard Green considers historical and cross-cultural examples of transsexualism and reviews experimental and clinical material from psychology, sociology, biology, and neuroendocrinology.

#338. DRAG [A History of Female Impersonation on the Stage] Roger Baker. $8.50

Drag is a theatrical term. It means women's clothes when worn by men. And men have been dragging their skirts across the stage since the beginning of the theatre. Now, for the first time the complexities of this extraordinary branch of theatrical technique are fully explored in Roger Baker's serious and absorbing work. Can the pantomime dame be traced back to the medieval mystery plays? How was Shakespeare's first Juliet — a smooth-faced boy — expected to behave? What happened when the first woman appeared on the English stage? Why did America take to drag in such a big way? What is the relationship between female impersonation and homosexuality? Where do compulsive transvestites fit into the scheme of things? How do glamorous impersonators shape themselves like women? What is the relevance of drugs and hormone injections? All these and more questions are answered as the reader makes his way through a glittering gallery of heroines, strippers and the like . . .

#343. SEXUAL SIGNATURES: On Being a Man or a Woman, by John Money and Patricia Tucker $6.95

What makes you a man or woman? Certain physical characteristics or particular mental attitudes? What are the actual differences — cultural stereotypes aside — between male and female? Examining sex differences in light of recent pioneer findings, **SEXUAL SIGNATURES** shows where you are now as a man or a woman and how you got there. The twentieth century has forced us to reexamine the sexual stereotypes by which we previously lived. Men and women are rethinking their life-styles, but many have a lurking fear that changes in the definition of masculinity and femininity may upset if not destroy the precious differences between the sexes. **SEXUAL SIGNATURES** can help you find and keep your bearing in relation to your peers, your spouse, your parents, your children, and yourself. As the author points out: "For our society today, the challenge is to decode the sex distinctions of the past that have become straitjackets, and to keep the rest of the gender stereotypes flexible enough to meet present and future change."

#333 MAN & WOMAN, BOY & GIRL: John Money and Anke A. Ehrhardt. $3.95

How do men become men, and women become women? How does a child establish gender identity? By what process is the human being directed toward reproductive maturity as either a male or female?

No really comprehensive treatment of sexual differentiation has ever been written before. In **Man and Woman, Boy and Girl,** John money and Anke Ehrhardt have drawn upon the findings of many specialized disciplines. They utilize genetics, embryology, endocrinology and neuroendocrinology, psychology, and anthropology. Their multidisciplinary approach to gender identity avoids the old arguments over nature versus nurture.

The New York Times Book Review said: ". . .the most important volume in the social sciences to appear since the Kinsey reports. Money . . . has begun to produce real answers to that ancient question: Is it heredity or environment?"

#335. A YEAR AMONG THE GIRLS, by Darrell G. Raynor. 190 pages. $4.95

This is a true report of men who dress in women's clothes — the transvestite world. How strange are the ways of man . . . and particularly the man who feels a compulsion to dress as a woman.

The first serious work of its kind on a topic that threatens to become of growing concern, this book offers significant insights to psychologists and students of the social scene; it may bring guidance and understanding to the individuals and families who lives have been shadowed by the transvestite urge; it presents a picture of a little-known phenomenon which will fascinate every reader who is involved in the idiosyncrasies and the problems of his fellow men.

#571. CONUNDRUM: By Jan Morris. 174 pages. $5.95

Jan Morris, a singularly articulate and sensitive observer describes an experience made possible only recently through hormone treatments: the gradual sex change leading over a number of years to the final operation. During this period of transition, Morris became acutely conscious of the specific qualities distinguishing the masculine and feminine structure. The account of the subtle changes experienced psychologically as well as physiologically by a person who has lived as both a man and a woman is uniquely revealing.

Winner of the Heinemann Award for literature in England, and the Polk Memorial Award for Journalism, James Morris was a celebrated foreign correspondent before moving on to authorship. He was happily married and the father of four children. As Jan Morris, she maintains that family bond in a condition of what she calls "passionate friendship," but has in almost all respects become a new person.

Nobody could be better qualified to discuss the tangled meanings of transsexualism. In **CONUNDRUM**, she movingly evokes the indefinable, inexorable, and, for most of us, unimaginable force of the instinct that led her, through many years of torment, to the surgeon's clinic in Casablanca and an ambiguous but joyful fulfillment.

#572. CANARY, by Canary Conn. 335 pages. $8.95

Before her name was Canary Conn, his name was Danny O'Connor. The bittersweet story of life as an aspiring young singer-songwriter, both as a young man and then as a woman, is told with warmth and candor. **CANARY** is the story of a highly creative individual who has had the strength to maintain a productive life notwithstanding a dramatic transformation.

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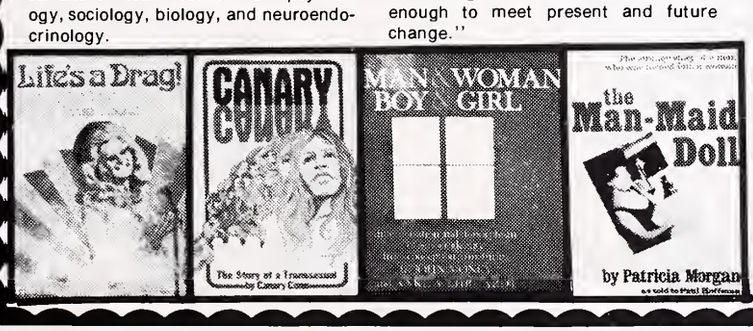

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DRAG REVIEWS THE THEATRE:

Women's Men's 'CLUB': A Musical Diversion Hits Home

New York City's theatre season was given a substantial boost by the opening of The Club. Thanks to a well-thought-out concept, able direction by Tommy Tune, the tall willowy dancer and Tony Award winner, good staging and costumes, The Club has settled into Bleecker Street's Circle In The Square Theatre for a successful run. Deservedly so.

It's the kind of low-keyed evening of good theatre, minus the brashness and plasticity of Broadway, that helped establish off-Broadway as the bastion of "real theatre."

The concept is a sociological study. It takes a look at the role of women in society during turn-of-the-century United States. This is accomplished in the manner of a social historian, by utilizing actual songs of the era. Don't be misled. Whilst the purpose is sociological, the result is entertainment.

An elegant men's club forms the setting. The men boast of the romantic conquests over drinks, cigars and pool games.

All so far would make for successful theatre, but the author and producers have come up with a sure-fire gimmick: The all-male cast is in fact all female. This is the first successful use of a male impersonator cast in recent memory. The girls make lovely boys indeed. They are immensely talented and persuasive enough in their male role to turn a good evening into something special.

There is a certain element of lesbianism, perhaps, lending a subdued bull dykishness to the show, which adds a soft, satirical, sexual undertone of titillation to the evening. Not enough to be offensive in the least, or even blatant, just a stimulating undercurrent.

What makes this use of drag so successful is the total lack of grotesqueness in which it is presented. There is no put-down characterization of men — just a good theatrical device. There really exists no freakiness here, just a point, which by the use of this understatement, comes across far more effectively than by a blaring announcement.

It is as if the women are all part of some mild joke, and are saying, "Yes, we know what it was like to be female in 1900, now isn't it all so silly to deal with people by judging them from what is between their legs, instead of as individuals?"

The audience, which ranged from theatre gays to interested theatre-goers, to actual lesbian butches, all seemed to find amusement and knowledge at The Club. If it appeals to such a diverse group as this, you'll probably like it, too.

It must also be pointed out that, besides from all deep meaning, et al, some of the songs are quite pretty and deserve to be preserved and heard. Is a cast album forthcoming? ? ?

The show once again proves that, if handled in the proper manner, drag can be a strong positive force in the presentation of entertainment. All the performers here are talented individuals in their own right. The use of drag just serves to enhance their basic talents. It does not provide the crutch as in many mime shows for entertainment where no talent exists.

My favorite among the cast is Joanne Baretta. Slightly plump, and with a roguish glint in her eyes, she delivers marvelous, ever so slightly off color, one liners, just like the sophisticated dirty old man she purports to be. This in no way is to imply prejudice against the others. From contralto Hodes to lankily sexy C. Monferdi, all have strong points. A woman may be only a woman, a cigar to smoke, but The Club is well worth its membership fee to let come inside.

Who will be the first? ? ?

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Box 15181

Hetero TV in the closet would like to correspond and exchange pictures with others who like 6" black patent leather shoes, long hair, corsets, gloves and photography. Let us help improve one another. DENISE.

TORONTO, ONT.CAN. Box 15187
Male Transvestite, 57, and thrilled to be a she-male, 130 lbs., 5'8'' extremely hetero, clothes size 16, but some slips, dresses and coats size 14, shoes size 10½, convincingly young and feminine in drag though you'd never guess it when I'm in straight; is revolted by the male persona and all its trappings; loves earrings and high heels, wigs, lace and handbags, miniskirts, long leather coats and all things swish; would like advice and help from females sophisticated in finer points of dress, makeup, and management of skirts. Would compensate by rendering similar assistance or sink your inhibitions and define your yearnings. Has beautiful fingernails, long, lustrous, smooth and oh! so career-miss! Is able at nail-wrapping and protection of nails from occupational hazards such as splitting and breaking. Accomplished in the art of applying basecoat, enamel and topcoat for long-lasting witchery. Asks for help in locating a beauty salon having room for mature and personable male as manicure virtuoso for weekends at present with full-time later. Holds current permit. Photographs nonexistent since unacquainted with person I could depend on to take them. You may respond with eclat and abandon, for your identity will be safe with me, and mine, I trust, with you. ERIKA

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BUFFALO, N. Y. Box 15189
New York, passive bi-tv in 20s would like to hear from, meet and make new friends. TVs, females, bi-males and gays please make contact. Discretion assured.

MICHIGAN Box 15188
Bi-TV who wants to give you all the pleasures you have always dreamed of. TV, TS, GG, Queen . . .Dress me . . . undress me. 34, sexy, good-looking, sincere, discrett, clean. No phonies. Love most cultures. Let's make our fantasies come true together. Women who would like to dress me, please write. Love water sports. Photo, phone number please. Answer all.

NEW YORK Box 15156
N. Y. bi-tv would like to hear from and meet other tvs. Cleanliness and discretion assured. Enjoy French and Greek cultures. Prefer passive roles, but can also be versatile. Please send photo if possible.

KILGORE, TEXAS Box 15186
TV interested in corresponding and possible meeting in West Texas City. Answer all same day arrive. Please send photo. I'll do the same. 22, White Caucasian.

HOUSTON, TEXAS Box 15159
Attractive foxy discreet well-endowed queen will date all! Also model and at times dig mild b/d and bizarre attire. SSAE.

PHILADELPHIA, PA. Box 15149
I am interested in meeting mature men for dates. I know I can make you ha0ppy. Phila. and Jersey area. Lois.

BROOKLYN, N. Y. Box 15174
Hetero tv, 26 and on the ''Big Mama'' side, wants to rap with all sisters who can honestly talk about our very special feeling. I'll answer every letter — those who send photos will get some in return. Love you all. Debbie.

OREGON Box 15154
HI! I'm Janice. How are you? I would love to write and exchange photos with you. What do you say, Gals? All letters with pictures will be answered. Those without . . . will not. Janice.

RICHMOND, VA. **Box 15167**
HI! My name is Kathy Kay. I'd like to correspond with and meet other tvs and queens. Maybe we could attend drag shows and balls together. Discretion assured. Photo and stamp appreciated, but will answer all.

NEW YORK **Box 15153**
Attractive transvestite with gorgeous gal friend for exotic get-togethers with generous mature bi-single couples. New York City and can travel. Enclose phone number please.

NEW YORK **Box 15152**
New York tv, 22, 5'7'', 155 lbs. interested in meeting other tvs for friendship and love. Have a good personality and look good when dressed. Send photo if possible.

CALIFORNIA **Box 15151**
Would like to correspond with transsexuals and drag queens only!! Must be attractive. Send S.A.S.E.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. **Box 15172**
Attractive, white male, age 32, would like to have a relationship with a pretty tv or ts. I will treat you with the respect due any woman. I think tvs and tss make fantastic women. Photo appreciated, but will answer all letters.

CALIFORNIA **Box 15177**
TV, male, 30, would like to hear from tvs and tss. I like to read tv stories, especially like to hear from those who can pass in public about their adventures. Suzanne

NEW YORK **Box 15169**
New York City mature sexy shem dresses up with garterbelts, high heels, make-up and lovely blonde wig. Having sweet lips and buns, will thrill you utmost!

TORONTO, CANADA **Box 15170**
Male, 26, hetero tv, wants to meet or correspond with others. Should be able to exchange ideas and photos. (PHOTO)

NEW YORK CITY AreaBox 15148
Alluring young pre-op transsexual, 25, seeks stimulating relationship with a sophisticated executive or professional who cross-dresses and wishes the warm companionship of a wife or mistress while retaining complete freedom to pursue personal desires with understanding and acceptance. A tall, elegant former Paris showgirl, I have passed unquestionably in all levels of society for several years; college grad, multi-lingual, accomplished hostess, many varied interests. Seeking lasting bond rather than temporary fling. Will relocate. Discretion assured and expected.

NEW YORK Box 15171
Discreet, late 30's, tv would like to correspond with or meet nice people. Any gender. Delores. (P)

NEW YORK Box 15150
Handsome man, 26, 5'10'', 175 lbs, wishes to meet attractive tv or ts for fun dates. I enjoy the theatre, quiet dinners, movies, dancing, etc. I dig Fr. and Gr. Please send phone no. and photo with reply, but I'll answer all.

INDIANA Box 15162
MALE, 28, lonely in Indianapolis. Interested in meeting with local tv or non-tv males for fun and help in dressing. Also would like to hear from you if passing through Indianapolis. Have own apartment. Please send phone number. If local, I will answer all. Bobbie.

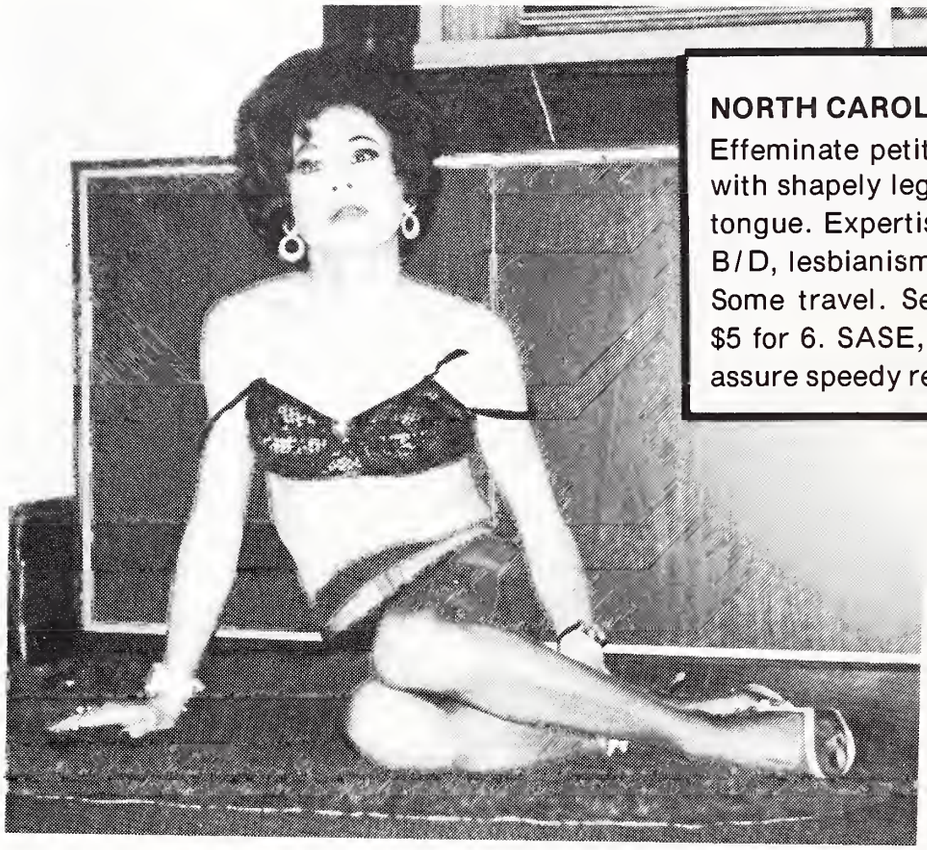
CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOMED
on places and events that may be of interest to our readers

NEW JERSEY Box 15173
BI tv, late 20's, single, sincere, interested in meeting other tvs for friendship and love. Can travel or entertain at my place. Will answer all sending photos. Sally.

NEW YORK Box 15155
Elegant young post-op ts would welcome sincere relationship with educated gentleman who appreciates intellectual and other exchanges. I like music, do modeling, and enjoy people. Bonnie.

NEW JERSEY Box 15147
TV, 5'8'', 160 lbs. wishes to meet understanding females and other tvs. Would love to meet again the girl who put her arms around my neck at Lee Brewster's Ball. I wore a white skirt and yellow heels.

PENNSYLVANIA Box 15176
Philadelphia area male tv, single, has beautiful wardrobe. Loves to appear publicly. Wishes to hear from other tv/tss, understanding women or men who would like to share an evening out. Please send photo for prompt reply. Elaine. ()



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NEW YORK **Box 15175**
Novice tv seeks understanding woman, tvs and ts for fun and friendship. Loves to wear sexy lingerie and dresses. Photo and phone, please. Darlene.

NEW YORK **Box 15163**
Young black male, college-grad, 28, 5'9'', would like to meet attractive tv and/or ts for pleasurable time. Friendship and experience sharing. Can entertain or travel. Discreet.

RHODE ISLAND **Box 15161**
Young pretty pre-op ts wishes to correspond with and eventually meet tss, tvs and interested men in Southern New England area. Please send photo. Jennifer.

CALIFORNIA **Box 15179**
Long Beach TV, 26, 6'2'', 135 lbs. wishes to meet other young tvs. Would also like to correspond with tvs in other states. Please send photo. Sheila

NEW YORK **Box 15160**
Young and feminine bi-tv wants to meet with persons sharing same interest. Photo and phone speed reply. Sue.

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